

## Mistaking the CEO for a Gigolo Chapter 1097

Nicole looked towards Evan, who confirmed her suspicion. Then, they both turned to Levant, who could not help but feel that something was off.

As the footsteps got closer, the noise of the bawling baby got louder. When Murphy carried the baby to Levant, he was still in a daze.

Baffled, he asked, "Dad, please don't tell me that this is my brother. Are you really so crazy about having a grandchild that you decided to produce one yourself? You're already at such an advanced age, how... this... oh boy..." This is so shameful!

"Stop talking nonsense! This is not my son, it's yours! He's my grandchild."

The news hit Levant like a wrecking ball.

"Dad, what did you just say? This is my son?"

"Yes!"

"No, wait a minute now... Dad, you must have adopted one or kidnapped one from elsewhere and planned to say that it's my son. I know, you're just trying to save your own skin, am I right?"

"You Idiot! Stop spouting nonsense! This is your biological son. If you don't believe me, you can verify it through a DNA test."

This is my child? And what did he say? A DNA test?

This...

Levant looked around and saw Sophia smiling at him. "Oh, my nephew, this is indeed your son. There's no doubt about it."

Levant was rendered speechless.

He looked at Nicole and Evan. With his arms folded, Evan's eyes seemed to be mocking him, saying, Did you expect the twist? Are you astonished?

Nicole bowed her head. I was the one who suggested keeping the baby. I was also the person who called the hospital. How should I explain myself and come clean to Levant?

Observing everyone's responses, Levant stared at the baby in disbelief.

Is this really my son?

How come I wasn't aware that I have one?

This is too absurd.

"Levant, I know that I was against the idea of you being with Tiffany in the past. But, through my observations of her in these few months, I realized that she would make a good match for you. Moreover, she's delivered such a lovely baby for our family. I've decided to support your relationship with her."

Finally, Levant was able to connect the dots and had an idea of what was going on.

Tiffany gave birth to this child.

She didn't abort the baby when I brought her to the hospital.

Levant suddenly felt that he had fallen into a trap set up by Evan and Nicole.

"It's fine if you want to pull a prank on me, but how can you joke about such a serious matter? This is a child we're talking about! Who are you to make a decision on my behalf and determine the existence of my child?" he spat.

"You b\*stard!" Murphy gave him a harsh kick.

Levant blew a fuse and roared, "I'm not going to keep this baby. Whoever agreed to keep him then should raise him."

"Sure, I'll raise the child then," Evan said in a very calm manner.

"Levant, you b\*stard! There's no father in this world who doesn't want to accept his own children. How can you be so cruel?"

Levant rebuked Murphy, "Well, I got that from you! After all, didn't you abandon me when I was young? I was raised by Stephen Musgrave, not you. So, similarly, whoever wants to care for the child, go ahead. Don't get me involved."

"You... you..." Murphy clenched his fists. He was sorely tempted to beat his own son up at that moment.

Just then, footsteps were heard coming down from the stairs.

Nicole hurried over to assist Tiffany and she saw how frail and weak she was.

"I'm all right. I've been treated very well at the Wicked Palace. Though the baby was premature, he's been fed well and is now growing steadily like other full-term babies."

"You look tired though. Please take care of yourself," advised Nicole.

"Thank you."

Tiffany stared at Levant. "I won't give this baby to you even if you want him, Levant. I'll raise him up all by myself and I'll never tell you that you're his father."

Seeing Tiffany's hostility, Levant felt rather uneasy. Yet, he was still adamant about his decision. "Don't think that I'll marry you because of the baby. You can stop your wishful thinking."

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"Don't worry, even if you agree to marry me, I won't..."

Before Tiffany could finish her sentence, Murphy interrupted her abruptly. "Levant, you've gone overboard! I'll care for this child."

"There's no need for you to do so. I'll raise him up on my own."

Murphy was worried to let Tiffany care for his grandchild alone.

Sophia immediately chipped in to give her advice. "Tiffany, it won't be possible for you to attend to the baby when your body is still so weak. So why don't you stay here with me? I'm free most of the time and I can help you babysit. It's not like Evan and Nicole will bear me a baby anytime soon, anyway."

"Thank you for the offer. But I'm a designer and I have a dedicated person-in-charge who looks into the operations of my company. It's really not that difficult for me to babysit while working from home. I should be fine."

"No. This won't do, this is my grandchild and I'll worry if you care for him alone," uttered Murphy.

Tiffany looked at him. "Back when you forced me to stay at the Wicked Palace, I really hated you. But after getting to know you better during these few months, I've come to appreciate the love and care that you've shown me. I know that you only did that out of your sincere affection for the baby. Nonetheless, I must thank you. I don't resent you anymore and I see you as a respectable elder now. Whenever you are free, you are welcome to come and visit my baby."

Murphy froze and his eyes welled up. He really couldn't bear the thought of separating from his grandson.

"Tiffany, will you be okay doing it alone?" Sophia was apprehensive to let her go as well.

She nodded. "Don't worry. If anything comes up or if I need any urgent help, I'll ring and ask for you to lend a hand."

"I think this is a good arrangement. Uncle Morris, if you're still worried, you can assign two capable maids to help babysit."

Murphy considered Evan's suggestion. "So be it, then."

It's obvious that both Tiffany and Levant are obdurate, regardless of any advice given. All I could wish now is for the child to grow up faster so that he'll be like how the quadruplets were, who worked hard on getting Nicole and Evan back together. When that happens, they can return to stay with me at the Wicked Palace then.

Since Murphy had agreed to the idea, Sophia said, "Tiffany, I'll select two maids to help you out, all right?"

Tiffany gave it a thought. "I think one is enough. And I'll pay for her monthly salary."

"Don't be silly. You're already doing so much, how could we let you contribute more? No worries. I'll make all the arrangements accordingly."

Just then, a maid from the Imperial Garden showed up with a box in her arms.

"Mr. Seet, this is the box that you've asked for."

Evan took the box and opened it. Levant yelled when he saw the content. "These are the items that you swapped!"

Evan shot him a stare. "That's where you're wrong. These are my welcome gifts for the newborn. Ms. Watson, please accept them."

What?

He's giving it to Tiffany? Levant knitted his brows.

A thin smile settled on Nicole's face. So, by "another woman," Evan was actually referring to Tiffany.

Well, this is an excellent decision.

"Tiffany, accept them, please." Nicole took the box from Evan and carefully placed them on Tiffany's hand, who was too shy to receive it.

She took a look at its contents and gasped. "Oh no, this is too expensive. I can't accept it."

"Yes you can, it's rightfully yours. Just take it as you're accepting the gift on behalf of your son."

Nicole insisted and forced the box on her. Tiffany felt uncomfortable accepting such a luxurious present. But I didn't do anything to deserve this.

"I'll be the temporary guardian of these precious items then. If you need it, please feel free to claim it back anytime."

"We don't need it. This is for your child. So, keep it for him," Nicole reiterated.

"That's right, please accept the gift, Tiffany. You deserve it!" Sophia glared at Levant while he remained quiet.

Evan cleared his throat and gave Levant a taunting stare. See that? Didn't I say before that even though it's your belongings, you still won't be able to get them back. Gifting them to Tiffany is the best idea ever. And I doubt you'll have the guts to claim it back from her...

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Levant rolled his eyes at Evan and felt that he had been set up again.

Not only did I fail to get back those items, but now there's even a child added to the equation?

He took a glance at the baby and felt conflicted.

Baby, it's not your fault. It's entirely my mistake. I shouldn't have created you. Your presence is like a stumbling block to me and all it did is increase the distance between myself and the woman that I love. It's going to be even more challenging to get her back now.

He then looked at Tiffany. She's really not my type. Feeling frustrated, he sighed repeatedly.

Fate is really toying with me.

"Don't you want to hold your son?" Evan posted him a question.

"Evan, did you really think that now I have a baby, I'll give up on Nicole? Dream on!"

Seeing Levant clenching his jaw in anger, Evan was beyond pleased. With his lips curled up, he said in a relaxed manner, "I think you're the one dreaming. It's time you wake up now and accept the fact that Nicole will never like you."

Levant did not respond to him.

He turned and looked at Nicole, who was cooing at the baby in Tiffany's arms. An image flashed across his mind. How wonderful would it be if Nicole and I could raise the child together? My life would be complete and I would be most contented.

As he dwelled in his thoughts, an ugly smile appeared on his face. Evan caught that and suspected Levant to be up to no good again.

He glared at Levant and gave him a stern warning. "If you dare to have any bad intentions, Uncle Morris and I will teach you a hard lesson. You haven't experienced hopelessness, have you?"

"Pft! Are you threatening me? Well, jokes on you because I'm not afraid at all."

Although he proclaimed so and might appear tough on the outside, Levant was quite wary deep down. Not to mention he had to keep in mind his relationship with Aunt Sophia, who treated him quite well. There would be a lot of other implications to consider should he decide to go against Evan.

It's best not to burn any bridges. With that thought in mind, Levant decided he would not act recklessly.

"Look, he's smiling. This little boy is so cute. He has two dimples and a pair of big, round eyes, just like Tiffany."

Hearing Nicole's passing remarks, Levant could not help but give the baby a good look. There's a twinkle in his marble-like eyes. He actually looks incredibly adorable. Levant did not realize that a smile had crept upon his face.

Evan noticed the other man's expression. I'm certain that this baby will wrap Levant around his little finger in the near future.

On their journey back to Imperial Garden, Nicole gossiped with Evan about Levant's attitude towards Tiffany. She felt sorry for Tiffany.

I've lived a hard life once, raising three children abroad, all by myself. I know exactly how difficult it is for a woman to do this alone. I can empathize with Tiffany.

"Evan, do you think we should help Levant and Tiffany patch things up? It's not easy to be a single mom."

"No doubt it's not easy for her to do this alone, but it's even harder to matchmake them. Since she's determined to keep the baby, I'm sure she has it all planned out."

"Hmm... I'll visit her whenever I have the time. You don't know how much I longed for someone to lend me a hand when I was taking care of the three munchkins. It would have given me some warmth and encouragement. I..."

Nicole turned her head and noticed that Evan was staring back at her. From her tear-filled eyes, Evan could roughly imagine those miserable days she had been through. He felt pangs of regret and guilt.

“You... Why are you looking at me like this?”

He pulled her into his embrace and planted a deep kiss on her forehead.

“Nicole, I’m sorry for all the sufferings you must have been through.”

A warm and fuzzy feeling rose within her. When I was living in hardship, I never thought that one day I could bury myself in Evan’s embrace and tell him all about this, let alone have him comfort me through and through.

She considered those grieving days’ worth it when she was reminded of what she had now. Not only did she have four smart and beautiful children, but she was also blessed with a loving husband.

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“Evan, I’ve really been through a lot. So, be nice to me in the future, okay?”

“Am I not treating you well?”

“You are! I’m just saying that I hope you can continue being so good to me.”

“Of course I will.”

“Mommy, you should make Daddy write a letter of guarantee.”

A loud voice startled the couple.

They looked in its direction and saw Maya looking at them, grinning from ear to ear.

“Maya, why did you come downstairs?” Evan asked.

Taking a bite of the juicy red apple in her hand, Maya replied, “I went to the kitchen to take some fruits. Daddy, why did you ask? Were you annoyed that I’ve disturbed your time with Mommy? Fine, I’m going upstairs then. You guys continue...”

She headed upstairs but after taking about ten steps, she turned back around and walked back to her parents with a smile.

“Mommy, I have something to say before going back to my room. It’ll only take a couple of minutes.” She gazed at Evan and asked, “Daddy, may I borrow Mommy for a few minutes, please?”

“Sure, you two have a chat. I’ll be in my study room checking on some company projects.” With that, he strode upstairs.

Nicole thought that Maya was being mysterious.

“Mommy, let me tell you a secret.”

“What secret?” Nicole prodded.

Maya tiptoed, leaned on Nicole's shoulder, and murmured, "Nina has a crush on her teacher, Mr. Chris Sanders."

What?

Nicole's frowned. I did think that Nina was acting strange lately, seeing that she's always in a daze or smiling for no reason. I have suspected so, but...

"Maya, do you have any evidence?"

The girl thought for a while. "Well, Nina secretly made a mold of her teacher's face and painted his likeness on it. Moreover, she often stares at the model at night and talks to herself. Do these count?"

Nicole froze for a moment. "Anything else?"

Maya tried to recall. "Oh, yes. Nina wanted to use up her hard-earned allowance to buy Mr. Sanders a present. I think she's picked one out already and is waiting to save enough for the purchase."

"What present?"

"A watch, just like the limited edition one that Daddy has. Anyhow, she hasn't got enough money yet and is thinking of ways to earn some. She even asked to borrow from me."

"Did you lend her any?"

"I..." Maya giggled. "Mommy, I didn't lend her. I can't even bear to wear the same identical watch as Daddy, let alone lend her the money to get one. Moreover, I think that guys should protect the ladies and treat them well. Nina is stooping too low in order to please him."

Maya's words cautioned Nicole. Nina has always been a prideful child, she never cares much about others. But now, she's willing to do so much for a guy? This could only mean that she has developed feelings for this guy.

She's only a fourteen-year-old, she has no idea how love works. I must guide her wisely before she makes any silly mistakes.

That's right, she needs some guidance.

I think it's about time I have a heart-to-heart talk with Nina.

"I know what to do now, Maya. I'll talk to her."

"Okay, Mommy. Please don't tell her that I told you, or else she will get angry and quarrel with me."

"Don't worry, I got this."

With that, Maya went upstairs. Nicole pondered over it and decided to visit Nina in her room.

"What are you doing, Nina?"

Hearing Nicole's voice, Nina quickly hid the handmade model of Chris' face in the bookshelf. She then turned to greet her mother. "Yes, Mommy, do you need anything?"

Nicole sensed her daughter's guilty conscience, but she kept her composure and nodded. "Nina, Mommy wants to have a chat with you."

"Please take a seat, Mommy."

Nicole plopped herself down on the European style armchair. "Nina, how are your classes coming along? That Mr. Sanders, is he good to you?"

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When Chris was mentioned, Nicole's sharp gaze fell on Nina. "Mommy, Mr. Sanders is very nice to me. He's taught me lots of things." A light blush crept up on her face.

Whenever she talked about Chris, it was as if she was talking about the sun – her eyes shone with both respect and pride.

Upon seeing her expression, Nicole was reminded of her old self. So she likes Chris.

"Nina, is Mr. Sanders married?"

"He said that all his energy is directed towards his work, so he won't get married so soon."

"Then does he have a girlfriend?"

Nina paused at this. She was sure that Chris was not married, but she did not know whether he had a girlfriend.

Looking at Nina's silence, Nicole grabbed her hand. "Nina, I know that you're a good kid. Right now, you should be focused on your studies. In a few years, you will have a more mature mentality than it is right now and when that happens, I'll help you with your relationship matters, okay?"

"Relationship"? "A few years later"? "Focus on my studies"?

Why would Mommy suddenly talk about all this? Does she know?

Nina was anxious.

"I believe that as long as you put all your energy into your studies, you'll definitely be successful in the skincare and cosmetics industry!"

"I... I will, Mommy."

"I believe you. Study hard." Nicole reached her hand out and stroked Nina's face as if she were a rare treasure.

Nina forced an unnatural smile. How did Mommy know about my crush?

Nicole exited Nina's bedroom and went downstairs. All of a sudden, Maya ran towards her. "Mommy, how was it with Nina?"

Nina heard what Maya said as she was about to close the door.

Her heart skipped a beat. How did Maya know what Mommy talked to me about? Don't tell me she told Mommy...



Is this because I asked to borrow money from her?

The more Nina thought about it, the more she was convinced that that was in fact the case. Her expression instantly turned dark and leaned against the door to wait for Maya to finish gossiping so she could confront her.

A few minutes later, Maya came back upstairs. When she met Nina's cold gaze, her heart skipped a beat and she quickly headed for her room with her head down. However, she did not expect Nina to trip her over.

"Nina, what are you doing?" Maya asked.

"What do you think?" Nina sized Maya up, noting her guilty expression.

"How would I know?" Maya rolled her eyes.

"Don't play dumb. You definitely told Mommy about me! Why did you tell her? What gives you the right to tell her my private business?"

Under Nina's self-assured interrogation, Maya seemed anxious and nervous. She fiddled with the corner of her shirt. "H-How did you know it was me who told Mommy?"

"You dare say it wasn't you?" Nina asked.

"N-No..." Maya was not good at lying. While she said it was not her, her guilty expression and fidgety behavior exposed the truth.

"So if it's not you, then who else could it be? Daddy doesn't know anything about this and there's no way the maids would have the nerve to say it, so the only one who could've told Mommy is you! All I did was borrow some money from you. You were too selfish to lend it to me, and you even spilled my secrets!" Nina berated endlessly. "Are you bored? Or have your brain rotted? Have you eaten too much that your brain rotted away so you couldn't tell right from wrong?"

Nina has not exercised that sharp tongue of her for quite some time now, so Maya felt somewhat strange listening to her fiery criticisms.

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"Nina, you shouldn't say things like that!"

"What do you mean I shouldn't? Do you really think you have the right to tell me what I can and cannot do? Maya, I've wanted to give you a piece of my mind for a long time now. You're such a horrible person. You pretend to be so trustworthy and reliable, but you turn around and stab me in the back. How could you spill my secrets? Y-You're downright hateful! You're a wolf in sheep's clothing! You're..."

Having been swept up in her emotions, Nina ran out of words to hurl abuse at her sister. She was mulling over what to say next when Maya suddenly shouted, "Nina, I did that out of concern for you! I was afraid that you would be taken advantage of! How could you say that about me? You're horrible!"

"Me? You're the one who's meddling in my affairs. I don't need your concern!"

"Nina, you... you don't know what's good for you!"

"It's certainly not you!" Nina screamed while pointing at Maya.

"It's not you either!" Maya retorted.

"You're a witch!"

"Y-You..."

With every word they shot at each other, Nina and Maya got angrier and angrier. Suddenly, memories of the times Nina berated her appeared in Maya's mind. Since back then, she was good at insults. To win against her, I need to use my Maya Punch. It was at this moment that she could not hold herself back.

She clenched her fist and raised her arm. "Maya Punch!" She swayed her arm with great force.

Nina was stunned. What is she... Shoot! She hasn't used that move in so many years. It used to hurt so much back then; it must hurt even more now.

"I'll show you, Nina!" As soon as Maya said that, she swung her fist in Nina's direction. However, her punch was dodged, and Nina rushed downstairs.

"Daddy, Mommy, Maya's gone crazy! She's trying to hit me!"

"Serves you right! Let's see if you still dare to call me a witch and that I have rotted brain now!"

In the living room, one of the sisters was running for her life, while the other was pursuing her relentlessly. Their shenanigans created a series of crashes and bangs, and when Evan came to see what was going on, the scene before him caused him to frown.

They're still fighting even at this age? What's going on?

"Daddy, quick, stop Maya!" Nina shouted as she ran behind her father to hide from her pursuer.

Maya stopped in her tracks. "Daddy, I'm only chasing her because she insulted me. Her insults were so harsh! Daddy, you have to punish her!"

"Nina, what's going on?" Evan asked.

"Daddy, I have a reason to do that. She was being meddlesome!"

"I did that out of concern for you! If you can't see that, you'll suffer terribly sooner or later!"

Evan looked at them and asked what happened. After listening to Maya's detailed explanation, he asked Nina, "Is this true?"

Nina kept quiet. She was so angry at Maya that she could hit her now. Not only did she tell Mommy, but she also told Daddy, too! She's horrible!

"So it's true?" Evan asked with a cold expression on his face.

Nina kept mum, but her face showed an indescribable stubbornness. All I did was having a crush on someone. How is that wrong? Does Daddy have to go as far as to interrogate me so coldly?

Looking at his daughter's state, Evan immediately took his phone out and made a call.

“Replace Chris and find Nina another teacher.”

Upon hearing this, Nina was filled with shock and looked at her father with hateful eyes.

“Daddy, why do you have to replace Mr. Sanders?”

“He’s supposed to help you with your homework, not for you to have a crush on!”

“But Daddy, it’s my own business if I like him. He hasn’t done anything wrong. What you’re doing is unfair. You’re being tyrannical!”

Even if I’m being unfair or being tyrannical, as a father, all I want is to protect you.

At such an innocent age, she wouldn’t know anything about love. If she falls in love with someone recklessly, she’ll just get hurt.

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“I’ve already made up my mind. Anything you say won’t change it! You don’t need to do your homework anymore. I’ll inform you when I’ve found a new teacher for you.” As soon as these cold words hit, Evan walked upstairs.

Sensing his determination, Nina’s eyes filled with tears. How could he? How could Daddy do this?

Maya had not expected that her father to make such a decision, but she knew deep down that he was right. Someone like Chris isn’t a good fit for Nina at all.

“Nina, you should just listen to Daddy...”

“I hate you! We’re through! I’ll never talk to you again, you witch!”

As soon as Nina said that, she ran into her bedroom in a fit and locked herself inside. She ignored everyone who knocked on her door, and even refused to eat.

Maya sighed. I think Nina really hates me now. All I want is what’s good for her, is that wrong?

After Nicole learned of what happened, she felt that Evan had overreacted.

“Nina really has feelings for Chris. She’ll hate you for ruthlessly disrespecting her feelings!”

After some thought, Evan replied, “If I had to choose between her hating me and her getting hurt, I would rather she hates me.”

Looking at Evan’s dark expression, Nicole could feel the profoundness of his fatherly love. However, she knew that his solution was not addressing the root cause of the problem.

“I think that whoever started it should be the one to end it. Let me talk with Chris. At his age, he should already have a girlfriend. If he doesn’t have any feelings for Nina, then we should make things clear with her. I believe that given Nina’s bristly and bashful personality, she’ll know what to do and won’t continue pestering him.”

Evan was silent in thought. He looked at her apprehensively. “And what if Chris doesn’t have a girlfriend?”

“Then, I’m sure he wouldn’t have any feelings for Nina too, since she’s only fourteen.”

Evan was still not convinced, and had an anxious expression on his face.

Nicole stood up and walked towards him. “Just leave this to me. Trust me, I’ll take care of it. I don’t want to see Nina like this, nor do I want her to hate us.”

“Get Sheila to go with you.”

Huh?

It’s not like I’m putting myself in danger. Why do I need someone to accompany me? However, even if she did not understand Evan’s worries, knowing that he was so concerned about her made her happy.

“Okay, I’ll give her a call.”

When Sheila got found out that Nicole was asking her to accompany her to go meet someone, she was filled with excitement.

“Who are we meeting? A man or a woman?”

“A man!”

“What kind of man?”

“He’s Nina’s teacher. The situation’s a little complicated, so I’ll tell you in person.”

“Alright, then I’ll go to you immediately.”

Sheila hung up and immediately started gossiping to Davin. “Nicole asked me to go and meet a man with her. Apparently, he’s handsome as h\*ll!”

Davin furrowed his brows. “What? Is he as handsome as I am?”

“Of course! She said he’s as handsome as Evan. Can you even imagine?”

With that, she got up and waved him goodbye.

Looking at her speeding along in her car, Davin thought that she deserved a talking to. But why would Nicole bring her to meet a handsome man? Does Evan know about this?

The more he thought about this, the more his curiosity grew. He decided to go check up on them at the Imperial Garden.

When Sheila got to the Imperial Garden, Nicole had no time to explain the full story to her and just pulled her into Evan’s Maybach. She decided she would tell her everything on the journey there.

“What? Nina has a crush on her teacher? Are they already in a relationship?” Sheila asked in shock.

“I don’t think so- I think it’s just a one-sided crush on Nina’s part. I don’t think Chris has any feelings for her.”

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After thinking about it carefully, Sheila said. "Nicole, I don't think we can be sure about that. Since Nina has a crush on him, I think he might just have did something to hook her in."

"I've met him before. I don't think he would do anything like that."

"It's too early to say. We'll investigate it carefully when we meet him."

Nicole nodded. "He's still Nina's teacher, after all. We still have to be polite."

"If he really is a qualified teacher, then we should give him the due respect. But if he has ill intentions, then we'll have to teach him a lesson so that he won't dare to get close to Nina ever again!"

"Mm." Nicole nodded.

When they got to Chris' house, Sheila knocked on the door bluntly.

Chris was surprised to see the two of them and was stunned for a second before he asked, "Mrs. Seet, why are you here?"

"Can we talk to you?" Nicole asked.

Chris thought about it for a while and nodded.

As they got to the living room, Sheila was staring a hole into Chris' back, as if she were trying to figure out everything about him from just looking at him.

"Please, sit," Chris said.

The two women sat on the cream sofa, with Chris sitting opposite them. Nicole did not even get a chance to say a word when Chris shot out, "I just got a call that Mr. Seet has dismissed me from my position as Nina's teacher. Can I ask why?"

Nicole hesitated for a while. Since I came here to iron things out, I should get everything out in the open.

"B-Because Nina has feelings for you. She's still an innocent child who doesn't know anything about love, so as parents, we're naturally worried about her. I hope you understand."

"Oh, is that so?" Chris muttered.

"By the way, I want to know if you are married or do you have a girlfriend?"

Chris hesitated before answering, "No, I'm not. I used to have one, but we broke up. I'm still single."

He's single?

Nicole's heart did a complete somersault. "Then... You don't have any feelings for Nina, right? She's still a child, after all."

"I do like her personality," Chris said slowly. After he said those words, he fell silent.

Nicole and Sheila looked at each other. That's such an ambiguous answer. "I like her personality"? So does he have feelings for her or not?

Sheila, being her straightforward self, slammed the table with a bang! "Don't beat around the bush. Do you have feelings for Nina? If you don't, then tell Nina clearly."

Chris smiled with disdain. "That's my business. And whether I tell her is my own business as well. Isn't it inappropriate for you to talk to me like that?"

"What do you mean inappropriate? So you're in the right for getting Nina to have a crush on you?"

"I didn't do anything to influence her to have feelings for me. I find it hard to control my own feelings, what more someone else's feelings."

Nicole was starting to feel that what he said made sense.

He really isn't easy to get through to. Sheila sized him up. "But you're not good enough for Nina. If you have such intentions, then I suggest you give them up as soon as possible."

"I think what you're really after is for Nina to give up on me, am I right?"

Sheila froze. "That's right. That's what we're here for."

Chris shot a glance at her and did not say another word.

Nicole decided to speak up. "Chris, for now, let's not discuss whether you and Nina are suited to be together. Nina's still in her innocent puberty stage, while you've already reached the age to get married. If you like her, then you'll have to wait many years for her. Nobody can say for sure that Nina's feelings towards you won't change in those years. If she ends up falling out of love with you, then those years would be wasted.

Besides, she hasn't even started her career yet. Her father has planned things out for her, and I'm sure you know of her talents. With the support of the Seet Group couple with her own abilities, I'm sure she would be able to reach great heights in her career. She'll get to meet many new people and change as she matures. Therefore, I don't want her to define her feelings so early in her life. It'll be risky for you, as well."

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"Of course, we can't control your feelings. But I hope you'll take what we've said into consideration."

After hearing her words, Chris had a dark look in his eyes.

I did expect Nina to fall for me, but I didn't expect it to happen so soon. After all, it's only been eight months since I've gotten to know her...

Seems like my plan was successful. I can commence it earlier now.

He looked up to meet Nicole's eyes. "You have a fair point. What I feel for Nina is admiration, and not love. It's just that, if you switched her teachers so quickly and made me disappear from her life, she will need to take a very long time to get over it. I think that we should help her reach some sort of understanding for her to get over me at her own will."

These words caused Nicole to feel both surprised and delighted.

If Chris could clarify things with Nina, then it'll be way better than Evan's overbearing plan. And Nina will come to a realization quickly too.

"So you want to clear the air with Nina?"

"Nina is a prideful girl. I think she'll understand things better if she experienced it firsthand."

Nicole frowned. "What do you mean?"

When Chris finished, Nicole and Sheila looked at each other. "I got it! If Nina sees him together with another woman, she definitely won't allow herself to continue liking him and will lose her feelings for him eventually." With that, she turned to Chris. "But didn't you say you don't have a girlfriend?"

"That's right. So I just need someone to pretend to be my girlfriend. For this role, we'll need someone who's pretty and has an air of elegance around them to make Nina feel that she has no chance against her and give up on me. This is for Nina's sake, but..."

"But?"

"It's just that, I don't know anyone like that." He turned to Nicole. "Mrs. Seet, I'm sure you are acquainted with many socialites. Could you find someone who meets these criteria?"

Nicole was still deliberating, but Sheila promised him immediately. "That's easy, just leave it to me! I'll find you someone pretty. And if she falls for you, then it is all the better for you!"

"Alright, then we'll plan out how we're going to let Nina find out."

When Nicole left Chris' house, she felt like a great weight was lifted off her shoulders. However, she was still worried about Nina. For her to find out that the person she likes already has someone else... that would be a big blow.

"Nina would probably be devastated," she sighed.

"Nicole, we're doing this for her sake. Even Chris said that he doesn't have any feelings for her, so we should help her get out of this rut as soon as possible. She'll get over it, and it'll be good for her."

"I just hope that things will turn out as we've planned."

"Relax. I'll treat you to some coffee. We haven't been out together for so long, we don't have to go back so soon."

"Sure. Now that you mention it, it has been a while since we've had coffee together."

"Exactly! I have so much to tell you."

With that, the two women hurried to the café.

In the Imperial Garden, Davin stared at Evan but was hesitant to speak. Nicole's not here, so does that mean she really went with Sheila?

Did they really go to meet that handsome man?

Being a person of jealous nature... or this jealous maniac of a brother I have... How could he sit on that chair so calmly while leisurely enjoying his tea?

"Hey Evan, where's Nicole?"

"She went out," he replied.

"Do you know to what she is up to?"

"Yes. To meet someone."

"To meet a man?"

"Yes!"

Davin was taken aback by his brother's resounding answer. He furrowed his brows. "You sure are generous to allow your wife to go meet another man."

Evan raised his head and stared at Davin with cold eyes. "Didn't Sheila go with her as well?"

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Davin was speechless.

"So you knew that they went together? Then you should know who they went to meet, right?"

Evan nodded. "They're meeting Nina's teacher."

"Oh, so that's it. You should've told me sooner. And here I am thinking that they went to meet some important business partner."

"He may not be as simple as you think."

"Huh? What do you mean?"

Evan caught Davin up on everything that happened. Davin was so shocked that he slammed the table. "F\*ck, how could this happen? Do you think he has bad intentions?"

"We'll know after they get back."

Davin sighed. "Should I talk to Nina?"

"She won't listen to you."

"Regardless, as her uncle, I should still try."

With that, Davin made his way to Nina's bedroom.

He knocked on her door.

"Nina, it's Uncle Davin. Open the door, I need to talk to you about something."

The door was shut firmly, and what met him was silence.

"Nina..."



He knocked on the door a few more times but was met with silence once again. Seems like she has made up her mind not to talk to anyone. Davin could only walk downstairs feeling dejected.

In the café, Sheila suddenly became downcast and let out a sigh.

“What’s wrong?” Nicole put their coffee down on the table and looked at her curiously.

“Have you ever heard what happened between Davin and his ex-girlfriend?”

“No.” Nicole had only heard half the story and was not very clear on the details, so she decided it was best not to run her mouth.

“I heard it from Sophia. His ex was really pitiful, and she even got a miscarriage to save him. Because of that, she lost the ability to reproduce, and she was afraid that this would upset him so she chose to leave him. Her love for him sure was so great and selfless. This made me think, why can’t I be the same? Ever since I fell in love with him, I’ve never let him out of my sight, and wouldn’t let him go over my dead body.”

“So what? What matters is that you’re together with him now.”

“Then do you think I’m too selfish in my love?”

“Do you want to be selfless, or do you want love?” Nicole asked.

“I want love!” Sheila answered determinately.

Nicole brought her coffee up and took a sip. “Then you don’t need to overthink. Even I’ve done something similar before. When I had hallucinations, I was afraid of hurting Evan, so I chose to stay far away from him. Afterward, he made me realize that love isn’t about arbitrarily deciding to sacrifice yourself for the sake of the other person, but rather, it’s about respecting the other party’s wishes, and that any problem done so much for Davin, but you’ve never given up. I think this is quality of your is something that’s very hard to come by.”

“Ever since I decided to be with Davin, I made up my mind that even if I were to die, I would want it to be with him.”

“Your love is really brave.”

Sheila laughed. “Well, I’m not great or selfless. All I have, is bravery.”

At the Imperial Garden, Davin was pacing around in the living room, anxiously awaiting Sheila’s return.

“What’s going on? Why aren’t they back yet?”

Evan looked at him, then to his watch. They’ve sure been gone for a long time. “Call them.”

“Let me do it.” Davin immediately dialed Sheila’s number.

When she saw that her husband was calling her, she immediately accepted the call.

“Why aren’t you back yet?”

“What? It has only been a while. Do you miss me already?”

“As if! Hurry up and come back soon!” Davin urged impatiently.

“I’m not done enjoying myself yet!” Sheila imitated him.

Enjoying herself?

After meeting Chris, she’s out enjoying herself again?